



Press Release

William W. Monning

Assemblymember, Representing the 27th District

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Legislation to Extend FORA Passes the Assembly Local Government Committee

(SACRAMENTO, CA) – Legislation authored by Assemblymember Bill Monning (D-Carmel) to extend the statutory sunset date of the Fort Ord Reuse Authority (FORA) passed out of the Assembly Committee on Local Government today on a 7 to 2 vote.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1614 is a bipartisan measure, coauthored by Senators Blakeslee and Cannella and Assemblymember Alejo, to maintain the current regional collaboration through FORA and continue the implementation of the recovery and reuse plan for the former military base by extending its sunset date. In addition, AB 1614 requires the FORA board to approve and submit a transition plan to the Monterey County Local Agency Formation Commission prior to the dissolution of FORA.

“While I am very pleased that AB 1614 passed out of committee, this is only the first step in a rigorous process and I look forward to continuing my conversations with all stakeholders as we confirm the need for a regional authority to oversee the ongoing base transition work on the former Fort Ord,” stated Assemblymember Monning. “By not extending FORA’s sunset date, we risk an uncertain future for the Monterey region.”

Should FORA not be extended, its function will be performed by other local agencies that are not equipped to fulfill the ongoing and fixed term obligations on Fort Ord, such as the implementation of the Habitat Conservation Plan, financing of contaminated building deconstruction, and the coordination of planning and construction of the Central Coast Veterans’ Cemetery.

“Efforts to realize the development of a Veterans’ Cemetery at the former Fort Ord have been underway for more than 17 years, and FORA is now a critical component in that effort,” stated Janet Parks, President of the Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation. “If FORA goes away, the hard work by countless local veterans will have been in vain and must start over.”

Assemblymember Monning was first elected to represent the 27th Assembly District in 2008 and re-elected in 2010. The 27th Assembly District includes portions of Monterey, Santa Clara and Santa Cruz Counties. Prior to his election to the Assembly, Assemblymember Monning was a professor at the Monterey College of Law and a Professor of International Negotiation and Conflict Resolution at the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

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